

ORDINANCE O25-013

ESTABLISHING THE MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS AND DUTIES FOR THE METROPOLITAN
WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT OF GREATER CHICAGO'S INSPECTOR GENERAL AND
CONVENING SEARCH AND SELECTION COMMITTEES FOR APPOINTING MWRD's INSPECTOR
GENERAL

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) desires to ensure that effective programs are in place to promote integrity, efficiency, accountability, and transparency in government; and

WHEREAS, on April 18, 2019, MWRD's Board of Commissioners (Board), in furtherance of these goals and wishing to provide independent oversight, adopted Ordinance O19-003 entitled Office of Independent Inspector General; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to that Ordinance, MWRD entered into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the County of Cook (County) wherein the County's Office of the Independent Inspector General extended its services to the MWRD; and

WHEREAS, on May 13, 2022, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Act (MWRD Act) was amended to grant MWRD authority to hire its own Independent Inspector General as codified in 70 ILCS 2605/4; and

WHEREAS, MWRD's agreement with the County expired May 16, 2025; and

WHEREAS, on April 3, 2025, the Board adopted Ordinance O25-010 establishing an Office of Interim Inspector General and establishing policies and practices for the Interim Inspector General; and

WHEREAS, on September 4, 2025, the Board adopted Ordinance O25-011, amending Ordinance O25-010 to clarify confidentiality provisions, allow public statements regarding inefficient or wasteful management, and to correct non-substantive grammatical errors.; and

WHEREAS, on December 4, 2025, the Board extended the services of the Interim Inspector General through June 30, 2026;

WHEREAS, in accordance with its statutory authority, MWRD intends to appoint its own (non-interim) Inspector General and begin a search for an individual to serve in this position upon the adoption of this ordinance; and

WHEREAS, also in accordance with its statutory authority, the Board shall establish minimum qualifications and duties for MWRD's Inspector General; and

WHEREAS, the Chicago Bar Association (CBA) has agreed to convene a search committee tasked with the responsibility to recommend four qualified candidates for the Inspector General position who do not have any personal or business relationship with any member of MWRD's Board; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago:

SECTION ONE: The Board approves the minimum qualifications and duties for MWRD's Inspector General as set forth in the job specification attached as Exhibit A, which is incorporated by reference into this Ordinance.

SECTION TWO: The Board authorizes utilizing the CBA to convene a Search Committee for MWRD's Inspector General.

SECTION THREE: The President shall request from the CBA the names of four qualified Inspector General candidates, known as a Candidate List.

SECTION FOUR: To be qualified, candidates must not have any personal or business relationship with any member of MWRD's Board. The CBA shall be responsible for ensuring that reasonable background checks are conducted on the Candidate List. The results of the background checks shall be provided to the Selection Committee prior to the candidate interviews.

SECTION FIVE: The CBA shall submit the Candidate List within 90 days of the President's request. Each recommendation on the Candidate List must include the candidate's resume, qualifications, and a brief statement detailing the candidate's credentials for appointment as Inspector General. In the event the CBA does not submit the Candidate List within 90 days of the President's request, the President may extend the CBA's deadline or rescind or waive the CBA's participation and recommend an alternative method of completing the Candidate List.

SECTION SIX: The President shall submit the Candidate List to MWRD's Selection Committee, consisting of the President and Vice President of the Board, the Executive Director, the General Counsel, and the Director of Human Resources.

SECTION SEVEN: The Selection Committee shall conduct interviews and/or any other investigations of the candidates as the Selection Committee deems necessary. The Selection Committee shall make a recommendation to the Board within 60 days after receiving the Candidate List unless additional time is necessary to complete pending investigations. If the Selection Committee does not make a recommendation, then the Search Committee will reconvene, or a new search committee will be convened, to recommend at least four new candidates for the Selection Committee's consideration.

SECTION EIGHT: If a majority of the Board approves the Selection Committee's recommended candidate, the candidate shall become MWRD's Inspector General.

SECTION NINE: The Inspector General shall serve for a term of six years.

PASSED this ____ day of ____ 2025

Approved as to Form and Legality:

Approved:

Head Assistant Attorney

President
Board of Commissioners of the Metropolitan
Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

General Counsel